DOCKET NO.: 4325/PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE MATTER OF THE PCT NATIONAL PHASE PATENT APPLICATION

OF: Yasuyuki KANADA et al.

USSN: to be assigned - NEW

FILED: March 15, 2002

INTERNATIONAL SERIAL NO.: PCT/JP01/05860

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: 5. July 2001 (05.07.01)

FOR: HARD SINTERED COMPACT THROWAWAY TIP

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS BOX PCT WASHINGTON, D. C. 20231

March 15, 2002

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

- Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98 applicants enclose a Form PTO-1449 and make of record the documents listed thereon. A copy of the International Search Report (English version) issued in the corresponding PCT International Application on October 9, 2001, is enclosed. Copies of references AA to and AE are enclosed.
- 2) This statement is being filed simultaneously with the above identified application.

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- 3) Reference AA is in English. References AB to AE are each accompanied by an English Abstract. References AD and AE are discussed at pages 1 to 5 of the Specification.
- A) Reference AA is categorized in relevance category Y (= document of particular relevance as to obviousness when combined with other documents) and references AB and AC are categorized in relevance category A (= document defining the general state of the art) in the enclosed International Search Report. Thereby, the requirement for a concise explanation of the relevance has been satisfied (see M.P.E.P. §609).
- 5) Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider all references of record, return an initialled copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to the applicants and ensure that all references of record are printed on any patent issuing from this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Yasuyuki KANADA et al. Applicant

WFF:he/4325/PCT Encls.: postcard, copy of International Search Report (English version), 5 references

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